Deployment Health Assessments

U.S. Armed Forces

September 2011

(Data through August 2011)

Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center

Report Date: September 27, 2011

Update: Deployment Health Assessments, U.S. Armed Forces, August 2011

Since January 2003, peaks and troughs in the numbers of pre- and post-deployment health assessment forms transmitted to the Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center generally corresponded to times of departure and return of large numbers of deployers. Between April 2006 and August 2011, the number of post-deployment reassessment (PDHRA) forms per month ranged from 15,309 to 36,845 (Table 1, Figure 1).

During the past 12 months, the proportions of returned deployers who rated their health as "fair" or "poor" were 8-11% on post-deployment health assessment questionnaires and 10-13% on PDHRA questionnaires (Figure 2).

In general, on post-deployment assessments and reassessments, deployers in the Army and in reserve components were more likely than their respective counterparts to report health and exposure-related concerns (Table 2, Figure 3). With the exception of Navy reserve component members, both active and reserve component members were more likely to report exposure concerns three to six months after, compared to the time of return from deployment (Figure 3).

At the time of return from deployment, soldiers serving in the active component were the most likely of all deployers to receive mental health referrals; however, three to six months after returning, Army reservists were more likely than active component soldiers to receive mental health referrals (Table 2).

Finally, during the past three years, reserve component members have been more likely than active component service members to report "exposure concerns" on postdeployment assessments and reassessments (Figure 3).

Table 1. Deployment-related health assessment forms, by month, U.S. Armed Forces, September 2010-August 2011

	Pre-deplo assessr DD279	nent	Post-deplo assessr DD27	nent	Post-deployment reassessment DD2900			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Total	392,914	100	348,729	100	307,186	100		
2010								
September	33,481	8.5	28,899	8.3	28,512	9.3		
October	27,590	7.0	27,981	8.0	27,183	8.8		
November	24,087	6.1	29,935	8.6	30,363	9.9		
December	31,913	8.1	30,720	8.8	24,849	8.1		
2011								
January	42,456	10.8	24,882	7.1	28,505	9.3		
February	33,703	8.6	25,550	7.3	26,236	8.5		
March	37,539	9.6	33,027	9.5	28,776	9.4		
April	39,254	10.0	34,684	9.9	24,490	8.0		
May	33,926	8.6	30,013	8.6	21,005	6.8		
June	32,875	8.4	27,597	7.9	21,425	7.0		
July	27,201	6.9	28,608	8.2	22,840	7.4		
August	28,889	7.4	26,833	7.7	23,002	7.5		

Figure 2. Proportion of deployment health assessment forms with self-assessed health status as "fair" or "poor", U.S. Armed Forces, July 2010-August 2011

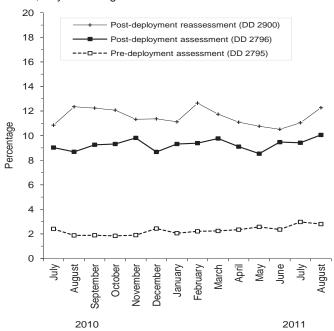
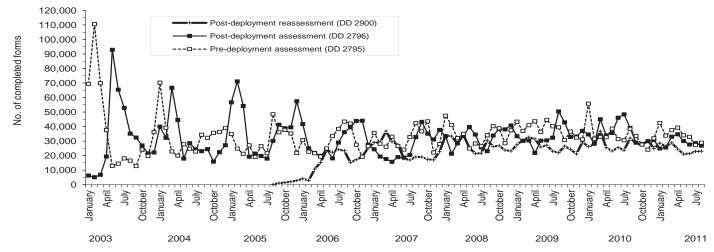


Figure 1. Total deployment health assessment and reassessment forms, by month, U.S. Armed Forces, January 2003-August 2011



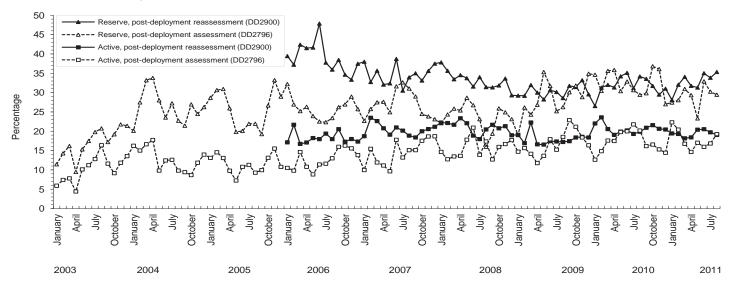
Data Source: Defense Medical Surveillance System

Table 2. Percentage of service members who endorsed selected questions/received referrals on health assessment forms, U.S. Armed Forces, September 2010-August 2011

	Army		Army Navy		Air Force			Marine Corps			All service members				
	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassessmt DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassessmt DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassessmt DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassessmt DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassessmt DD2900
Active component	n= 142,300	n= 117,606	n= 125,483	n= 15,670	n= 19,718	n= 16,377	n= 60,731	n= 51,441	n= 49,664	n= 33,047	n= 35,570	n= 32,447	n= 251,748	n= 224,335	n= 223,971
Active component	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
General health "fair" or "poor"	3.9	10.8	13.2	1.2	4.5	6.2	0.6	3.4	4.1	1.4	8.3	10.8	2.6	8.1	10.3
Health concerns, not wound or injury	12.0	25.7	23.8	3.2	10.9	15.6	2.3	6.4	11.1	2.3	14.2	22.4	7.9	18.2	20.2
Health worse now than before deployed	na	23.3	23.1	na	10.9	13.7	na	8.7	8.8	na	19.3	22.6	na	18.3	19.2
Exposure concerns	na	18.3	18.9	na	18.7	24.7	na	12.7	14.2	na	19.4	30.3	na	17.2	19.9
PTSD symptoms (2 or more)	na	11.4	11.4	na	5.2	8.7	na	2.6	2.9	na	9.3	13.4	na	8.5	9.6
Depression symptoms (any)	na	30.4	30.6	na	21.1	26.5	na	13.0	13.9	na	27.3	33.8	na	25.1	27.1
Referral indicated by provider (any)	5.2	36.9	29.0	3.3	18.7	17.8	2.0	15.9	8.3	2.3	24.8	27.6	4.0	28.5	23.4
Mental health referral indicated ^a	1.6	9.6	15.6	0.4	2.4	6.6	0.5	1.6	2.8	0.2	2.7	7.1	1.1	6.0	10.9
Medical visit following referral ^b	98.8	99.7	97.7	94.0	90.6	94.6	88.4	98.6	99.3	67.5	83.7	91.6	94.3	95.9	96.7
		Army			Navy	,		Air For	rce		Marine Co	orns	Allo	ervice me	ambore
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	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassessmt DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy	Reassessmt DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy	Reassessmt DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassessmt DD2900	Pre- deploy	Post-	Reassessmt DD2900
200000	deploy	Post- deploy		deploy	Post- deploy	Reassessmt	deploy	Post- deploy	Reassessmt	Pre- deploy	Post- deploy	Reassessmt	Pre- deploy	Post- deploy	Reassessmt
Reserve component	deploy DD2795 n=	Post- deploy DD2796	DD2900 n=	deploy DD2795 n=	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassessmt DD2900	deploy DD2795 n=	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassessmt DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795 n=	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassessmt DD2900	Pre- deploy DD2795	Post- deploy DD2796	Reassessmt DD2900
Reserve component General health "fair" or "poor"	deploy DD2795 n= 60,558	Post- deploy DD2796 n= 56,210	DD2900 n= 55,962	deploy DD2795 n= 3,885	Post- deploy DD2796 n= 5,354	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 5,766	deploy DD2795 n= 14,199	Post- deploy DD2796 n= 12,282	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 14,987	Pre- deploy DD2795 n= 2,964	Post- deploy DD2796 n= 2,481	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 3,011	Pre- deploy DD2795 n= 81,606	Post- deploy DD2796 n= 76,327	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 79,726
	deploy DD2795 n= 60,558	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 56,210	DD2900 n= 55,962 %	deploy DD2795 n= 3,885 %	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 5,354	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 5,766 %	deploy DD2795 n= 14,199 %	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 12,282	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 14,987 %	Predeploy DD2795 n= 2,964 %	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 2,481	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 3,011 %	Predeploy DD2795 n= 81,606 %	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 76,327	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 79,726 %
General health "fair" or "poor"	deploy DD2795 n= 60,558 %	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 56,210 % 12.1	DD2900 n= 55,962 % 16.9	deploy DD2795 n= 3,885 % 0.3	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 5,354 % 9.0	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 5,766 % 9.2	deploy DD2795 n= 14,199 % 0.3	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 12,282 %	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 14,987 % 5.8	Predeploy DD2795 n= 2,964 % 0.8	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 2,481 %	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 3,011 % 11.6	Pre- deploy DD2795 n= 81,606 % 0.8	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 76,327 % 10.8	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 79,726 % 14.1
General health "fair" or "poor" Health concerns, not wound or injury	deploy DD2795 n= 60,558 % 0.9 13.5	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 56,210 % 12.1 36.8	DD2900 n= 55,962 % 16.9 43.0	deploy DD2795 n= 3,885 % 0.3 1.9	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 5,354 % 9.0 28.3	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 5,766 % 9.2 33.7	deploy DD2795 n= 14,199 % 0.3 0.8	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 12,282 % 5.6 9.4	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 14,987 % 5.8 17.1	Pre-deploy DD2795 n= 2,964 % 0.8 3.0	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 2,481 % 12.5 40.7	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 3,011 % 11.6 40.3	Pre-deploy DD2795 n= 81,606 % 0.8 10.4	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 76,327 % 10.8 31.9	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 79,726 % 14.1 37.3
General health "fair" or "poor" Health concerns, not wound or injury Health worse now than before deployed	deploy DD2795 n= 60,558 % 0.9 13.5 na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 56,210 % 12.1 36.8 27.3	DD2900 n= 55,962 % 16.9 43.0 31.9	deploy DD2795 n= 3,885 % 0.3 1.9	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 5,354 % 9.0 28.3 22.4	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 5,766 % 9.2 33.7 22.0	deploy DD2795 n= 14,199 % 0.3 0.8 na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 12,282 % 5.6 9.4	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 14,987 % 5.8 17.1 12.3	Pre-deploy DD2795 n= 2,964 % 0.8 3.0 na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 2,481 % 12.5 40.7 30.8	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 3,011 % 11.6 40.3 29.9	Pre- deploy DD2795 n= 81,606 % 0.8 10.4 na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 76,327 % 10.8 31.9 25.0	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 79,726 % 14.1 37.3 27.4
General health "fair" or "poor" Health concerns, not wound or injury Health worse now than before deployed Exposure concerns	deploy DD2795 n= 60,558 % 0.9 13.5 na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 56,210 % 12.1 36.8 27.3 31.5	DD2900 n= 55,962 % 16.9 43.0 31.9 34.2	deploy DD2795 n= 3,885 % 0.3 1.9 na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 5,354 % 9.0 28.3 22.4 42.1	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 5,766 % 9.2 33.7 22.0 38.6	deploy DD2795 n= 14,199 % 0.3 0.8 na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 12,282 % 5.6 9.4 14.8	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 14,987 % 5.8 17.1 12.3 21.3	Predeploy DD2795 n= 2,964 % 0.8 3.0 na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 2,481 % 12.5 40.7 30.8 23.4	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 3,011 % 11.6 40.3 29.9 37.0	Pre- deploy DD2795 n= 81,606 % 0.8 10.4 na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n=76,327 % 10.8 31.9 25.0 29.7	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 79,726 % 14.1 37.3 27.4 32.2
General health "fair" or "poor" Health concerns, not wound or injury Health worse now than before deployed Exposure concerns PTSD symptoms (2 or more)	deploy DD2795 n= 60,558 % 0.9 13.5 na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 56,210 % 12.1 36.8 27.3 31.5	DD2900 n= 55,962 % 16.9 43.0 31.9 34.2 19.8	deploy DD2795 n= 3,885 % 0.3 1.9 na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 5,354 % 9.0 28.3 22.4 42.1 7.0	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 5,766 % 9.2 33.7 22.0 38.6 13.5	deploy DD2795 n= 14,199 % 0.3 0.8 na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 12,282 % 5.6 9.4 14.8 17.4 3.4	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 14,987 % 5.8 17.1 12.3 21.3 3.9	Predeploy DD2795 n= 2,964 % 0.8 3.0 na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 2,481 % 12.5 40.7 30.8 23.4	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 3,011 % 11.6 40.3 29.9 37.0 21.8	Pre- deploy DD2795 n= 81,606 % 0.8 10.4 na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 76,327 % 10.8 31.9 25.0 29.7 9.6	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 79,726 % 14.1 37.3 27.4 32.2 16.4
General health "fair" or "poor" Health concerns, not wound or injury Health worse now than before deployed Exposure concerns PTSD symptoms (2 or more) Depression symptoms (any)	deploy DD2795 n= 60,558 % 0.9 13.5 na na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 56,210 % 12.1 36.8 27.3 31.5 11.1 29.4	DD2900 n= 55,962 % 16.9 43.0 31.9 34.2 19.8 33.4	deploy DD2795 n= 3,885 % 0.3 1.9 na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 5,354 % 9.0 28.3 22.4 42.1 7.0 27.8	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 5,766 % 9.2 33.7 22.0 38.6 13.5 27.5	deploy DD2795 n= 14,199 % 0.3 0.8 na na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 12,282 % 5.6 9.4 14.8 17.4 3.4 15.3	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 14,987 % 5.8 17.1 12.3 21.3 3.9 15.2	Predeploy DD2795 n= 2,964 % 0.8 3.0 na na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 2,481 % 12.5 40.7 30.8 23.4 12.0 38.0	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 3,011 % 11.6 40.3 29.9 37.0 21.8 30.4	Predeploy DD2795 n= 81,606 % 0.8 10.4 na na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 76,327 % 10.8 31.9 25.0 29.7 9.6 27.3	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 79,726 % 14.1 37.3 27.4 32.2 16.4 29.5
General health "fair" or "poor" Health concerns, not wound or injury Health worse now than before deployed Exposure concerns PTSD symptoms (2 or more) Depression symptoms (any) Referral indicated by provider (any)	deploy DD2795 n=60,558 % 0.9 13.5 na na na 2.9	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 56,210 % 12.1 36.8 27.3 31.5 11.1 29.4 42.9	DD2900 n= 55,962 % 16.9 43.0 31.9 34.2 19.8 33.4 48.8	deploy DD2795 n= 3,885 % 0.3 1.9 na na na a	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 5,354 % 9.0 28.3 22.4 42.1 7.0 27.8 36.0	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 5,766 % 9.2 33.7 22.0 38.6 13.5 27.5 29.5	deploy DD2795 n= 14,199 % 0.3 0.8 na na na	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 12,282 % 5.6 9.4 14.8 17.4 3.4 15.3 21.2	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 14,987 % 5.8 17.1 12.3 21.3 3.9 15.2 11.9	Pre- deploy DD2795 n= 2,964 % 0.8 3.0 na na na 3.0	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 2,481 % 12.5 40.7 30.8 23.4 12.0 38.0 44.6	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 3,011 % 11.6 40.3 29.9 37.0 21.8 30.4 39.4	Pre-deploy DD2795 n= 81,606 % 0.8 10.4 na na na 2.5	Post-deploy DD2796 n= 76,327 % 10.8 31.9 25.0 29.7 9.6 27.3 38.9	Reassessmt DD2900 n= 79,726 % 14.1 37.3 27.4 32.2 16.4 29.5 40.1

^aIncludes behavioral health, combat stress and substance abuse referrals.

Figure 3. Proportion of service members who endorsed exposure concerns on post-deployment health assessments, U.S. Armed Forces, January 2003-August 2011



^bRecord of inpatient or outpatient visit within 6 months after referral.